

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	28/03/2017
Unique reference number	SC005045
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	The Partnership of Care Today Children's Services
Registered provider address	Lansdowne House, 85 Buxton Road, Stockport, Cheshire SK2 6LR

Responsible individual	Vivien Snape
Registered manager	Emma Coen
Inspector	Hannah Bates

Inspection date	28/03/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Good
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection	
<p>This home was judged good at the full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.</p>	
<p>Young people remain very settled. Although there have been some disagreements between the young people, staff have managed these well and incidents are rare. A member of staff told the inspector, 'It is a nice house. This is the nicest house and group of lads we have had.'</p> <p>Since the last inspection, young people's progress has improved. They are all engaging with school. When there have been periods of disengagement, staff have worked with education providers to re-engage young people. Staff and education providers work closely together to monitor young people's attendance, engagement and behaviour. Staff praise young people when they are doing well. This has been effective, and some young people's attendance and engagement have increased significantly.</p> <p>Staff encourage young people to become involved in their communities. Young people are looking for part-time jobs, and one young person volunteers at a local shop. Staff support young people with their hobbies. One young person has recently started doing magic shows at events, which staff have actively encouraged and supported. Young people said that they have very positive relationships with their staff team. One young person said, 'Staff are amazing. They are awesome.' Another young person said, 'I love my home.' Staff offer high levels of praise to young people and talk openly when minor issues arise. This stops minor issues becoming incidents in the home.</p> <p>Since the last inspection, young people's risk-taking behaviours have significantly reduced. There have been no significant incidents in the home. Although physical interventions have increased since the last inspection, staff reflect on the triggers for the increase in interventions, such as changes to young people's care plans. Staff work with placing authorities and advocate for their young people. This has resulted in a change of care plan for one young person and, consequently, a decrease in physical interventions. Documenting of physical interventions is good and evidences that staff use the least restrictive physical intervention first.</p> <p>There is good partnership working with other agencies. The registered manager provides rigorous oversight of incidents. She completes monthly key-working sessions with young people to secure their views, wishes and feelings. She works with other agencies and challenges placing authorities appropriately to ensure that</p>	

young people receive the resources that they need to make progress.
The registered manager has met the recommendations from the last inspection.

Information about this children's home

This home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three young people who have emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
14/11/2016	Full	Good
23/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
21/12/2015	Full	Good
10/03/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection, we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the 'Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection'.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference that adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, young people and their families. In addition, the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people whom it is trying to help, protect and look after.

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service and to consider how well it complies with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'.

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